21400 St 100/20

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

(Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing multi-wall carbon nanotubes comprising:

a process for preparing fullerene/carbon nanotube hybrid structures wherein assembled fullerenes, these being fullerenes that are linked, are housed within carbon nanotubes, and

a process whereby the hybrid structures are subjected to electron beam irradiation while in a heated state, thereby forming interior tubes from the assembled fullerenes;

wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams while in a state of being heated to 80-700°C.

- 2. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the assembled fullerenes are essentially composed of C_{60} fullerenes.
- 3. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the carbon nanotubes forming part of the hybrid structures are essentially single-wall carbon nanotubes.
 - 4. (Cancelled)

- 5. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in Claim [[4]] 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams while in a state of being heated to 100 ~ 500°C.
- 6. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams having an accelerating voltage of 80 ~ 250 kV.
- 7. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams at 100 ~ 500 C/cm²/min.
- 8. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams at an electron beam density of $1 \sim 8 \times 10^{-11} \text{A}/\text{cm}^2$.
- 9. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams for 15 minutes or less.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams having an accelerating voltage of 80 ~ 150 kV.

- 12. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams at an electron beam density of $0.5 \sim 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{A}/\text{cm}^2$.
- 13. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the hybrid structures are maintained in the heated state for a specified period before irradiation with the electron beams begins.
- 14. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein, after the irradiation of the hybrid structures with the electron beams has finished, resulting products thereof are maintained for a specified period within the same temperature range as during irradiation.
- 15. (Original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a process for preparing the hybrid structures includes a treatment whereby the fullerenes and the carbon nanotubes having an opening therein are brought together, and the fullerenes are filled into the carbon nanotubes.

16-21. (Canceled)

- 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein recovery from damage caused by the irradiation is accelerated by the heated state of the hybrid structures.
 - 23. (Cancelled)
 - 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (New) A method for manufacturing multi-wall carbon nanotubes comprising:

a process for preparing fullerene/carbon nanotube hybrid structures wherein assembled fullerenes, these being fullerenes that are linked, are housed within carbon nanotubes, and

a process whereby the hybrid structures are subjected to electron beam irradiation while in a heated state, thereby forming interior tubes from the assembled fullerenes;

wherein the hybrid structures are subjected to irradiation with the electron beams while in a state of being heated to 70-250°C.